

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Enclosed herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the non-statutory obviousness-type patenting rejection of claims 22-41 is overcome.

Pending claims 22-37 and 39-41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 4,724,517 (May). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As to claim 22, May nowhere teaches compressing an immediate operand associated with a current instruction, nor storing such compressed operand in a selected one of multiple fixed-length operand fields. In this regard, the Office Action appears to contend that FIG. 5 of May and the corresponding discussion in the specification teaches such subject matter. However, all that FIG. 5 and the corresponding specification teaches is that instructions are of a fixed length and include a function field and a data field. Nowhere, however, does May anywhere teach or suggest that the operand field (i.e., corresponding to the data portion) can store compressed data. In fact, the May reference does not even include the word "compression" anywhere. Every instruction used in the system of May includes the same number of bits, one part representing a function and another part representing data. May, 8:46-58. As there is no teaching or suggestion of compressing of an immediate operand in May, the rejection of claim 22 and the claims depending therefrom are overcome.

Claim 36 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 38. Accordingly, claim 36 and the claims depending therefrom are allowable.

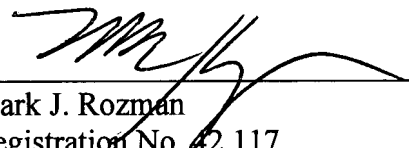
New independent claim 51 and the claims depending therefrom are patentable, as this claim is based on dependent claim 31, which was not rejected other than for the obvious type double patenting rejection.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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